

# Risk Factors for Late Onset Hearing Loss: Features Associated with Syndromes

## Syndromes known to include sensorineural and/or conductive hearing loss include:

### **Autosomal Dominant Syndromes**

- Waardenburg Syndrome
  - Congenital sensorineural hearing loss, hair hypopigmentation (usually white forelock, eyebrows, and/or eye lashes), hypochromic iridis, and lateral displacement of inner canthi.
- Branchio-Oto-Renal (BOR) Syndrome (Melnick-Fraser Syndrome)

Diagnosis without family history based on the presence of any three of the following: mile to profound conductive, sensorineural, or mixed hearing loss (due to abnormalities of the pinnae, external auditory canal, middle ear, or inner ear), pre-auricular pits or tags, "lop-ear" deformity, branchial fistulae or cysts, and renal dysplasia.

CHARGE Syndrome

Coloboma of the eye, Heart anomaly, choanal Atresia, mental Retardation (ranging from mild to profound), microphallus (Genital and urinary difficulties), and Ear anomalies and/or defects.

- Stickler Syndrome
  - High myopia, hypotonia, prominent eyes, variable hearing impairment, clefts of hard and/or soft palate, flat faces with depressed nasal bridge, mitral valve prolapse, and hyperextensible joints.
- Neurofibromatosis Type II

Bilateral acoustic neuromas developing usually in the second or third decade, schwannoma, spinal tumors, meningioms, juvenile posterior subcapsular cataracts, focal weakness, tinnitus, balance dysfunction, and seizure.

Treacher Collins Syndrome

Midface hypoplasia, micrognathia, mandibular hypoplasia, external auditory canal defects, conductive hearing loss, coloboma of the lower eyelid, partial to total absence of lower eyelashes, and preauricular hair displacement.

# **Autosomal Recessive Syndromes**

- Usher Syndrome
  - Congenital bilateral mild to severe hearing loss or progressive sensorineural hearing loss, vestibular areflexia, and retinitis pigmentosa.
- Pendred Syndrome
  - Hearing loss that is usually congenital (sometimes late onset and progressive), vestibular dysfunction, and temporal bone anomalies, goiter.
- Jervell & Lange-Nielsen Syndrome (Long QT Syndrome)

Profound congenital sensorineural deafness, prolonged QTc interval, often presents as a deaf child with syncopal episodes during stress or exercise.

#### X-Linked Syndromes

Alport Syndrome

Microhematuria, ocular lesions, anterior lenticonus, maculopathy, hearing loss is never congenital but can be detected in late childhood or early adulthood.

For a list of references and more detailed information about this and other risk factors for late onset hearing loss, please visit our website: www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi.

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